

Clean Copy of Amended Claim

1. (twice amended) A method for modifying steroid production in a mammal in need of treatment by alteration of reproductive hormone levels comprising administering a compound directly inhibiting SR-BI or a compound selectively increasing expression of SR-BI thereby altering the transfer of cholesterol or cholesteryl ester from high density lipoprotein or other lipoproteins by specifically altering expression of or binding to cholesterol or cholesteryl ester of SR-BI to steroidogenic tissues producing reproductive hormones.

Remarks

Drawings

The examiner has again objected to the use of lower case in the informal drawings, when the description in the application uses upper case. Please see the formal drawings which were mailed on December 7, 1998. These use upper case letters and are believed to moot the objection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-7, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) over Rigotti, et al., Curr. Opin. Lipiol. 8, 181-188 (1997). Claims 1 and 8 was rejected under §102(a) over Spona, et al., Contraception 54, 299-304 (1996). Claims 1, 9, 12 and 13 were rejected under §102(a) (this should be 102(b)) as disclosed by Bajetta, et al., Br. J. Cancer. 70, 145-150 (1994). Claims 1, 9, 12, and 14 were rejected under §102(a) as disclosed by Cirkel, Human Reproduction 11, 89-101 (1996). Claims 1, 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) (this should be 102(b)) as disclosed by Whitcroft and Stevenson (1992). These rejections are respectfully traversed.